

Message Text

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ACTION AGR-08

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DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS AGRICULTURE/FAS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SP, EAGR, EMIN, ESTC, ETRD

SUBJ: SPANISH IMPORTS OF GRAIN AND COAL

1. EMBASSY TRANSLATES BELOW OPERATIVE PORTIONS (NONESSENTIAL WORDS OMITTED) NOTE FROM FOREIGN OFFICE DATED NOV 12 AND RECEIVED NOV 15.

AMONG GRAINS CORN AND SOYBEANS MOST IMPORTANT.
CORN IMPORT FORECAST BASED ON PRICE TENDENCIES AND ANNUAL INCREASE IN NEEDS FOR PRODUCTION MIXED FEEDS SHOWS THAT IN NO CASE WILL NEEDS BE LESS THAN TWO MILLION TONS. THIS ESTIMATE COUNTS ON AMERICAN SUPPLIES.

WITH RESPECT SOYBEANS, CONSUMPTION FORECASTS INCLUDE NEEDS BOTH FOR MIXED FEED PRODUCTIONS, WHICH HAVE BEEN INCREASING YEARLY, AND FOR VEGETABLE OILS. LATTER EXPECTED INCREASE DUE SHORT HARVEST EXPECTED IN OLIVE OIL. ALSO SHOULD BE NOTED PRICE RELATIONS WILL VARY SUBSTANTIALLY IN FAVOR SEED OILS. BASED ON THIS HYPOTHESIS ANTICIPATE SPANISH IMPORT NEEDS 1975 CONSIDERABLE: MINIMUM 1,300,000 TONS NEEDED FROM US.

USDA FORMALLY CONFIRMED THAT IMPORT NEEDS OF OTHER COUNTRIES TO BE CONSIDERED AT TIME AUTHORIZATION EXPORTS. ALSO TO BE CONSIDERED IS CHARACTER OF FREQUENT CUSTOMER OR TRADITIONAL
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IMPORTER OF EACH COUNTRY NEEDING THOSE GRAINS. IN THIS SENSE

SPANISH AUTHORITIES VERY GLAD HEAR THIS DECISION AND HOPE
CONSIDERATION WILL BE GIVEN ANNUAL VOLUME OF SPANISH IMPORTS,
THEIR REGULARITY IN RECENT YEARS AND UNQUESTIONED NECESSITY
THESE IMPORTS FOR EQUILIBRIUM SPANISH AGRICULTURAL SECTOR.
THUS FAR COAL NOT CAUSE FOR CONCERN, ABOUT NORMAL SUPPLY.
BUT APPROPRIATE AUTHORITIES CONCERNED RE POSSIBLE DIFFICULTIES
IN US COAL MINING SECTOR WHICH MIGHT GIVE RISE EXPORT RESTRICTION
POLICY BY USG.

THEREFORE, TAKING ACCOUNT CONSEQUENCES ACTION THIS TYPE
WOULD HAVE ON SPANISH STEEL INDUSTRY, FONMIN REQUESTS AMERICAN
AUTHORITIES TAKE THESE NECESSITIES INTO ACCOUNT SHOULD ISSUE
ARISE.

FONMIN REQUESTS EMBASSY TRANSMIT CONTENTS THIS NOTE TO
US COMPETENT AUTHORITIES WITH SUPPORT OF ABOVE CONSIDERATION
RE SPANISH GRAIN AND COAL IMPORTS FROM US, IN HOPE MAINTAIN
REGULARITY AND FLEXIBILITY SUPPLIES THESE PRODUCTS IN
SPANISH MARKET.

2. COMMENT BY SEPTTEL.

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